



OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER OF THE OREAD MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

January 1992

F O R T H C O M I N G E V E N T S

Summary:

10 - 11 January	Little Langdale
31 Jan - 1 Feb	Tan-yr-Wyddfa
Tu 4 Feb	Royal Oak, Ockbrook
Su 9 Feb	Winter walk

10 - 11 January Little Langdale Peter Amour
For the assistance of those booked on this meet, please look for your initials below to determine your abode:

Fylde MC hut: AR, FR, SMcD, SR, NE, JG, SG, RE, FAM, BW, HG, CB, JL, RL, BA1, BA2, PA.

Please bring tea towels if staying in this hut.

YRC Low Hall Garth: RC, JS, IT, JG, CJR, RH, DH, AF, JF, DB, GB, NM1, NM2, IB.

Will those using Low Hall Garth please be aware that the kitchen lies directly below a neighbour's flat. Any noise complaints back to the YRC could result in a ban, so please be neighbourly. Parking is available above the hut on the left.

I look forward to meeting you in The Three Shires Head.

31 Jan - 1 Feb Tan-yr-Wyddfa Rock Hudson
Yet another chance to get in some winter routes. A pity that it's a very small chance these days due to the greenhouse effect! A weekend based at Tan-yr-Wyddfa, so it's walking or climbing depending on conditions, but whatever the weather, the venue will always provide the base for a good weekend. Ring me on 0602 333031 or see me at the Brunswick on the 28th to book berths and arrange lifts.

Tu 4 February Royal Oak, Ockbrook Steve Bashforth
Dennis Gray, ex rope boy to the famous, ex general secretary to the BMC, will lecture on his life and times and sign copies of his recent autobiography!

Su 9 February Winter walk Brian West
More one day walks of general interest have been decreed by your committee.

For the merely athletic, a long walk anywhere would suffice; for the merely inept a short walk nowhere; for the mere traditionalist, the same walk as last time and for the mere climber, no walk at all. But what for the Oread flaneur - and flaneuse? A walk to the pub of course. And for the committed climbers among us? Not a walk but a reconnaissance, a chance here to weigh up some of those recondite crags that beckon slyly from the back pages of Northern Lime.

We shall start 0930 from Monsal Head walking via Priestcliffe to Miller's Dale. Leaving Miller's Dale at 1100 we shall then split an infinitive to boldly go where sanity and the National Park fear to tread - Great Rocks Dale beckoning oh so shyly.

Lunch will be taken at a proper pub - the Midland at Peak Dale and a return made along the series of dales to the east.

Please join in when, where and how you like. If you can't make the walk, turn up for the pub.

0930 Monsal Head CP. SK185715. 17 miles return

1100 Miller's Dale CP. SK138733. 10 miles return

1300 The Midland, Peak Dale. SK093768. Basic food, Robinson's as it should be.

6 - 10 March (or longer) Ben Nevis & Glencoe Richard Hopkinson
The days are a bit longer but conditions are usually good so what better way to finish the winter climbing season than a long weekend in Glencoe and on Ben Nevis? We have two caravans booked at Onich near a pub. I stayed there last year and found the site very convenient and the vans well appointed. Don't be put off by the mention of limited numbers in the last newsletter because I would hope to be able to book extra vans if demand warrants.

See me at the Brunswick or give me a ring (0629 823392) if you're interested. It's about time we had another good Scottish winter meet. If you want to stay for the whole week this can be arranged.

Advance notice: 3 March. Royal Oak. Phil Nixon will round off the winter series with a slide lecture on Greenland.

P A S T E V E N T S A N D A N C I E N T H I S T O R Y

CORRECTIONS: Roy Eyre did not run in the Dovedale Dash. Roger Larkam came 241st.

Bullstones (Brian West)

Twelve of us waited in vain for Radders at the White Lion in Trawsfynydd; but he was in the warm counting his air miles as we emerged into the coldest night this winter. Our laughter was muted when the fork lift truck man fell in the stream: it could be my turn next. At one in the morning we found enough level pitches in the warm forest to stretch our bags and ourselves and luxuriate on a thick carpet of pine needles.

Unusually for a Bullstones meet, Beattie had arranged a lot of climbing for us - most of it over fences, but also some pleasant scrambling through the gorge, Rhaeadr y Cwm. No-one had been in bed with Madonna which may explain how he took his turn in the river with a spectacular reverse somersault with tuck.

About this time t'owd man started his reprise that we were going round in circles. He remained unconsolated until Sunday when we walked in a straight line. The tussocks took their toll and only the phantom lady got to the bothy before dark. Cefngarw was cold, very cold. Alcohol and shouting over the racket of the woodcutter's stove warmed things a little; perhaps wisely, the hard stuff was taken sparingly.

Sunday morning was as perfect as Saturday. In the best Bullstones weather ever, we walked below a line of sizzling pylons and past old mine levels and so returned to the mysterious mundanity of midday Trawsfynydd.

RT

Black Rocks

It was very cold and there was verglas here and there on the north side of the rocks. There were lots of Oreads hiding in the dark and ascents were made of several routes: QPG, QPC, Black Crack, Central Buttress, Stonnis Buttress, Sand Gully, Fat Man's Chimney, Lawyer's Chimney, Curved Crack, Lone Tree Groove/Gully, South Gully and probably several more that I did not catch. One traditionalist took the break with tradition even further by changing crag as well as pub. He enjoyed good, if lonely conditions on Harborough. Eighteen helpings of pie were consumed at the Rising Sun by fewer than eighteen Oreads. More than 30 supped various ales.

HUT BOOKINGS

Please note the new hut fees from January 1st.:

Wales, members £1.50

guests £4.50

Heathy Lea, members £1.50

guests £2.50

A new cash box is being fitted at Heathy Lea and will be located by the bookshelf. Please only use this for small sums (e.g. day fees or single overnights). Fees for group bookings should be paid direct to C Hobday.

Tan-yr-Wyddfa:

January	4 - 5	Oread (private party)
	10 - 11	Loughton MC 16 beds
	17 - 18	Cresswell 16 beds
	24 - 25	TTC 16 beds
	31 - 1	Oread meet
February	7 - 8	Oropheus CC 16 beds
	14 - 15	Scunthorpe MC 16 beds
	21 - 22	Ilkeston Ramblers 16 beds
	28 - 29	Oread meet
March	6 - 7	Working party
	13 - 14	Logica MC 16 beds
	20 - 21	Oldham MC 16 beds
	27 - 28	Oread meet

Heathy Lea:

March	13 - 14	(5 beds)
	20 - 21	Oread meet

Colin Hobday (tel 0332 551594)

SHORT NOTICES

GORDON GADSBY

Gordon will be exhibiting mountain photographs and paintings in Workshop Gallery, Sutton Bonington from 21 January to 29 February. There will be a preview on Sunday 26 January from 3 to 5 in the afternoon. Sutton Bonington is 2 miles SE of J24, M1 off A6 dir. Loughborough. Does anyone have any interesting old mountaineering paraphernalia (really ancient boots, skis etc) they could lend during the exhibition? For further info please phone Freda Raphael on 0509 673543 (gallery) or 0509 672175 (home).

SKI-ING AT HALF TERM

Is anyone interested in making up a group for ski-ing at half term (15 - 23 February)? If so, please let me know asap and I will see what can be arranged at short notice. Other families with children would be welcome. Contact Tony Raphael on 0509 672175.

WALKING IN THE VERCORS

John Theobald has told me that he would be happy to lead a walk from near Grenoble to the Vercors/Dauphine. This would take about a week in early summer. Please contact Tony Raphael at The Brunswick or telephone 0509 672175.

NEXT EDITION

I intend to publish the next edition on Tuesday, 4 February. Please send all written material to me at 61 West End, Wirksworth DE4 4EG to arrive by Monday, 28 January. I especially look forward to hearing from Colin Barnard.

Rob Tresidder

pubid.: 7.1.92.

Ref.: 92.01N

Fell Race 1992

The rain stopped, the sun tried to shine, and eight teams of Oreads bravely set out into the unknown. Four checkpoints were scattered round Black Rocks, Via Gellia and the Stone Centre, each team had to get various numbers of people to each checkpoint.

Even before the start Keith was complaining about the rules-things never change.

While each team solved the route choice conundrum in their own way the England cricket team were winning their semi-final in very dubious circumstances. Any fell race result fiddle would pale into insignificance compared to the cricket result.

After an hour Oreads began to appear from every direction. They all had their tales of woe, usually directed to the checkpoint marshals. However everybody seemed to enjoy themselves which is much more important than who won the event.

1st	Radders, Roy, Freda and Adam.
2nd	Brian, Pete, Helen.
3rd	Katie, Keith, Rock.
4th	Graham, Mike, Chris and Alex.
5th	Bobby, Tony, Jenny.
6th	Rusty, + two others (sorry forgotten your names)
7th	Pete, Chris, Fred.
Disqualified	Rob, Roger. due to superior local knowledge and being too quick - they set the fastest time.

The trophy was awarded to Freda and Adam Rapheal.

Special thanks to the checkpoint marshals, Nick, Steve, Richard, and Jane.